Keeping Children Safe from Guns

Children and Guns

- *200 million firearms in the U.S.*
- Your Child will encounter one
  - Children's friends home
  - Might find one

Parents and Children

- Limit access to firearms
- Teach children to
  - Stop!
  - Don't touch
  - Leave the area
  - Tell an adult

Scope of the Problem

- In 1992, number one cause of brain injury fatalities in children
- A child is killed every two hours with a loaded gun
- American problem, with a rate 90 times greater than any other similar country.
  Half of American households have firearms
- Every day, 14 children under the age of 20 are killed
- $14,000 to treat the average gun wound

Firearm Usage

- Firearms rarely used for protection
- Risk of suicide x 5
- Risk of homicide x 3
- Playing with a gun
- 90% of accidental shootings
- Guns not locked up.

Prevention of Firearm Violence

- *If you have a gun:*
  - Keep it unloaded and locked up
  - Bullets in a separate location
  - No access to the keys
  - Ask for storage advice
  - Talk to your children
  - Federal Safety standards

Children and Guns

If you're thinking of mixing children and guns in the same household, there are a few things you should know.

- Ideas to Avoid
  - Hiding the gun
  - Training small children to use guns
- Real Security
  - Gun locks
  - Locked case or safe
- Accidents With Other People's Guns.

Safe Children – It’s No Accident

- Safe Children
- Safe Gun Storage
- Safe Gun Handling
- Gun Safety, You Can Make It Happen

QUESTIONS?